

# Bishop Luther Elder Cleaver



## Favorite Scripture:

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14

In Loving Remembrance  
of  
**Bishop Luther Elder Cleaver**

Born: March 10, 1889  
Jacksonville, Texas

Departed this life: June 3, 1974  
San Francisco, California

Memorial Service  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1974 - 7:30 P.M.

Funeral Service  
THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1974 - 11:00 A.M.

At The  
GREATER LITTLE CHAPEL  
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST  
616 Divisadero Street  
San Francisco, California

Administrative Assistant  
J. C. Jenkins, Minister in Charge

Interment  
CYPRESS LAWN MEMORIAL CEMETERY  
Colma, California

† † †

**Pallbearers**

Honorary Pallbearers  
State and National Officials - District Superintendents  
State Pastors

Active Pallbearers

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Deacon A. Eison   | Elder M. Lee    |
| Brother S. Talley | Elder E. Wesley |
| Elder G. Bluford  | Elder J. Nobles |

# Order of Services

For  
**Bishop Luther Elder Cleaver**

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1974 - 11:00 A.M.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| PRECESSIONAL .....  |   |
| SCRIPTURE: Old Testament - Psalm 16 .....                 | Elder C. Myers  |
| SCRIPTURE: New Testament - Romans 12: 9-21 .....          | Elder P. Jefferson  |
| INVOCATION .....  | Supt. E. J. O'Neal  |
| SELECTION: ....   | Northern California State Choir, Little Chapel Church Choir<br>"Beautiful Garden of Prayer" |
| REFLECTIONS: (two minutes each)                           |   |
| Representing Little Chapel Church .....                   | Elder Elbert Hicks  |
| Representing Southern California, 2nd .....               | Bishop E. E. Cleveland  |
| Representing Northwest California .....                   | Bishop S. R. Martin   |
| Representing North Central California .....               | Bishop G. Ross  |
| Representing Central Valley .....                         | Bishop W. S. Wilson   |
| Representing Pastors, Northern California .....           | Supt. L. B. Johnson   |
| Representing District Superintendent .....                | Supt. V. F. Devers  |
| SELECTIONS .....  | Northern California State, Little Chapel Church Choirs<br>"It Is Well With My Soul"         |
| EXPRESSIONS: (two minutes each)                           |   |
| Representing Dist. Missionaries, No. Calif. ....          | Mother G. Hogan   |
| Representing Women's Departments                          |   |
| North West California .....                               | Dr. Mattie McClothen  |
| North Central California .....                            | Mother Pearl Wilburn  |
| Valley Central .....                                      | Mother A. Woods   |
| Northern California 1st .....                             | Mother E. M. Devers   |
| EXPRESSIONS: by Bishop's Staff .....                      | Bishop S. L. Ennis  |
| SOLO .....  | Elder R. D. Daniels<br>"Through It All"   |
| RESOLUTIONS:  |   |
| Greater Little Chapel .....                               | Elder R. D. Collier   |
| Northern California 1st Jurisdiction .....                | Elder J. W. Williams, Jr.   |
| OBITUARY .....  | Sister Dorothy Irving   |
| SOLO: (request) .....                                     | Sister Mary Collier   |
| TRIBUTE .....   | Bishop B. R. Stewart, Northern California 1st Jurisdiction                                  |
| SOLO .....  | Sister Velton Garnett   |
| EULOGY .....  | Bishop S. M. Crouch<br>2nd Assistant Presiding Bishop, International                        |
| VIEWING OF REMAINS .....                                  |   |
| Music - "He's My Everything" "I'm Happy With Jesus Alone" |   |
| RECESSONAL .....  |   |
| INTERMENT .....   |   |

# Memorial Service



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1974 - 7:30 P.M.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| OFFICIATORS .....                                 | Elder G. Bluford, Elder R. Collier                  |
| ORGAN PRELUDE .....                               |   |
| INVOCATION .....                                  | Elder M. Jackson                                    |
| SCRIPTURES: Old Testament - Psalm 16 .....        | Elder F. Montgomery                                 |
| SCRIPTURES: New Testament - Romans 12: 9-21 ..... | Elder G. Williams                                   |
| SELECTIONS .....                                  | Little Chapel Choir<br>San Francisco District Choir |
| EXPRESSIONS: (two minutes) .....                  |   |
| Local Church Representatives                      | San Francisco District Representatives              |
| Ministers: Elder L. Moses                         | Elder A. Organ                                      |
| Missionaries: Sister M. Ford                      | Sister R. Ginn                                      |
| Trustee Board: Elder M. Hicks                     | Elder I. Johnson                                    |
| Deacon Board: Brother M. Mallard                  | Elder W. Bullock                                    |
| FAVORITE SONGS: "Spirit of Refreshing" .....      | Elder L. Hawkins                                    |
| "I'll Fly Away" .....                             | Mother Jackson                                      |
| "Happy With Jesus Alone" .....                    | Sister M. Jackson                                   |
| EXPRESSIONS: (three minutes)                      |   |
| AUXILIARIES .....                                 | Sister R. Finley, Elder James Martin                |
| AS A SON .....                                    | Elder M. Lee  |
| CHILDREN'S TIME .....                             |   |
| EXPRESSIONS .....                                 | Congregation  |
| AIM .....   | Brother Moody                                       |
| RESOLUTION.....                                   | Sister Blackshear                                   |
| EXPRESSIONS .....                                 | Elder J. C. Jenkins<br>Bishop B. R. Stewart         |
| CLOSING EXPRESSIONS .....                         | Officiators   |
| FINAL SONG: Congregation .....                    | "He's My Everything"                                |

## Obituary

Luther Elder Cleaver was born on March 10, 1889 in Jacksonville, Texas to the union of Alice Fuller and Frank Cleaver. He was one of a family of eight brothers and four sisters. He attended school in Cherokee County Texas where his mother was one of his instructors. He enjoyed a happy childhood and was noted for his industry, cheerfulness and love for singing.

After moving to Waxahachie, Texas, he united in holy matrimony to Miss Effie Hampton in 1908 and to this union was born one son, Tolliver. In 1920 Luther Cleaver came to San Francisco to follow his trade as a general contractor in the building trade and was joined by his family in 1921.

In 1924 the spirit of the Lord led him to attend services at the Pentacostal Church at 614 Pacific Avenue under the leadership of Mother Jones, he was drawn to the Lord and was saved. In 1925 a prayer meeting was started in the home of Brother Cleaver, the Lord saved and added to this little band which formed the first Church of God in Christ in San Francisco at 1511 Ellis Street. The Church was initially pastored by Elder Fears and later by Elder Isaac Finley. It was under the leadership of Elder Finley that Brother Cleaver heard and responded to a call to the ministry and was licensed as a minister of the Gospel by Elder I. Finley.

The Lord led Elder Cleaver to start a work for Him. On April 15, 1932 he opened the second Church of God In Christ in San Francisco at 1653 Pierce Street. The Lord blessed the little flock and added to the church such as should be saved. The continued growth of the church necessitated the second move to 2144 Sutter Street. During the 1930's he opened a Rescue Mission where the church ministered to the needs of many. The combined spiritual emphasis and mission outreach contributed to continued growth and in 1939 the Lord spoke again to His manservant and under his leadership the church purchased the first property in the name of the Church of God in Christ at 1543 - 1547 Webster Street. The church was now known as the Little Chapel Church of God in Christ and God prospered the work numerically, financially and spiritually.

In 1956 this servant of the Lord was forced to seek another place of worship due to redevelopment of the area. He and the members purchased and remodeled the building at 2030 Sutter Street and under the leadership of this Godly man the church family enjoyed peace, harmony and continued spiritual growth. After paying all indebtedness on this building, the property was acquisitioned by the City and County of San Francisco and again this man of God was forced to seek another place of worship. In the interim the Church worshipped at the Macedonia Baptist Church at 2135 Sutter Street.

The Lord again manifested Himself to Elder Cleaver and in 1971 he was led to purchase and remodel the beautiful edifice now enjoyed by the congregation at 616 Divisadero Street, which stands as a continuing testament of his Godly leadership for these forty-two years of pastoring.

His active life in the ministry covered a span of more than fifty years. His participation ranged from the life of the local church through and including the national church organization. He held many local church offices. He was the first and only Superintendent of the San Francisco District. He served as Secretary and Treasurer for Northern California 1st Jurisdiction. He was a member of the State

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(OBITUARY CONTINUED)

Executive Committee and the State Advisory Board. He was advisor to the late Bishop E.B. Stewart. He was the much respected senior advisor to state Bishop B.R. Stewart.

In the year 1951, he was ordained and consecrated to be Bishop and overseer for the state of Montana. He served faithfully.

He was small of stature, but giant of spirit. He was the biggest little man to touch our lives. His life was one of service. He gave, he cared for the aged, he took time with the children. He was a man of peace. The scripture was the final word. His greatness will be greatly missed.

Bishop Cleaver leaves to mourn his passing, one son, Mr. Tolliver Cleaver, Los Angeles, California; one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Zelda Cleaver, Los Angeles; one grandson, Reverend Edmund L. Cleaver, Los Angeles; one grand-daughter, Mrs. Zelda Lutherne Howard, Los Angeles; six great-grand children; one great-great-grandchild; four brothers, Reverend Albert Cleaver, Waxahachie, Texas; Dr. Dexter T. Cleaver, San Francisco; Mr. Chester Cleaver, Port Arthur, Texas; Mr. Herman Cleaver, Jacksonville, Texas; one sister, Mrs. Jessie Bradford, Jacksonville, Texas; three sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, friends and a loving church family, the membership of the Greater Little Chapel Church of God in Christ, San Francisco, California.

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Arrangements By

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